

# Senate Study Bill 1038

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS AFFAIRS BILL  
BY CHAIRPERSON BEALL)

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act creating an undergraduate educational assistance grant  
2 program for dependent children of veterans with  
3 service=connected disabilities.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:  
5 TLSB 1277SC 83  
6 kh/nh/14

PAG LIN

1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 261.26 GRANT PROGRAM FOR  
1 2 DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF VETERANS WITH SERVICE=CONNECTED  
1 3 DISABILITIES == FUND.  
1 4 1. DEFINITIONS. As used in this section, unless the  
1 5 context otherwise requires:  
1 6 a. "Eligible institution" means a community college  
1 7 established under chapter 260C, an accredited private  
1 8 institution, or an institution of higher learning governed by  
1 9 the state board of regents.  
1 10 b. "Qualified student" means a person who meets the  
1 11 requirements set forth in subsection 2.  
1 12 c. "Veteran" means an individual meeting the definition of  
1 13 veteran in section 35.1 whom the department of veterans  
1 14 affairs verifies is permanently and totally disabled from a  
1 15 service=connected disability.  
1 16 2. PROGRAM == ELIGIBILITY. A grant program for dependent  
1 17 children of veterans is established to be administered by the  
1 18 commission. The awarding of grants under the program is  
1 19 subject to appropriations made by the general assembly. A  
1 20 person who meets all of the following requirements, as  
1 21 applicable, is eligible for a grant under the program:  
1 22 a. Is a resident of Iowa and a citizen or a lawful  
1 23 permanent resident of the United States.  
1 24 b. Is between sixteen and twenty=two years of age.  
1 25 c. Applies in a timely manner for admission to an eligible  
1 26 institution and is accepted for admission.  
1 27 d. Applies in a timely manner for any federal or state  
1 28 student financial assistance available to the student to  
1 29 attend an eligible institution.  
1 30 e. Files a new application and parents' confidential  
1 31 statement, as applicable, annually on the basis of which the  
1 32 applicant's eligibility for a renewed grant will be evaluated  
1 33 and determined.  
1 34 f. Maintains satisfactory academic progress during each  
1 35 term for which a grant is awarded.  
2 1 g. Is verified by the department of veterans affairs to be  
2 2 the dependent child of a veteran who has exhausted entitlement  
2 3 to state educational assistance available under chapter 35 and  
2 4 entitlement to federal educational assistance under 38 U.S.C.  
2 5 } 35.  
2 6 3. EXTENT OF GRANT.  
2 7 a. A qualified student at an eligible institution may  
2 8 receive grants under this section for not more than the  
2 9 equivalent of eight full=time semesters of undergraduate  
2 10 study. This paragraph shall not be construed to limit grant  
2 11 awards to students enrolled full=time only.  
2 12 b. Grants awarded pursuant to this section shall not  
2 13 exceed the student's financial need, as determined by the  
2 14 commission, the average resident tuition rate and mandatory  
2 15 fees established for institutions of higher learning governed  
2 16 by the state board of regents, or the resident tuition and  
2 17 mandatory fees charged for the program of enrollment by the

2 18 eligible institution at which the student is enrolled,  
2 19 whichever is less.

2 20 4. TIMELY PROCESSING OF INFORMATION. The department of  
2 21 veterans affairs shall work with the commission to ensure that  
2 22 information regarding a veteran's disability status or a  
2 23 student's entitlement to state or federal educational  
2 24 assistance, which is requested by a veteran's dependent, an  
2 25 eligible institution, or the commission, and which is required  
2 26 to establish eligibility for a grant pursuant to this section,  
2 27 is processed on a timely basis.

2 28 5. DISCONTINUANCE OF ATTENDANCE == REMITTANCE. If a  
2 29 student receiving a grant pursuant to this section  
2 30 discontinues attendance before the end of any academic term,  
2 31 the entire amount of any refund due to the student, up to the  
2 32 amount of any payments made by the state, shall be remitted by  
2 33 the eligible institution to the commission. The commission  
2 34 shall deposit refunds paid to the commission in accordance  
2 35 with this subsection into the fund established pursuant to

3 1 subsection 6.  
3 2 6. FUND ESTABLISHED. A dependent children of disabled  
3 3 veterans grant fund is created in the state treasury as a  
3 4 separate fund under the control of the commission. All moneys  
3 5 deposited or paid into the fund are appropriated and made  
3 6 available to the commission to be used for grants for  
3 7 qualified students pursuant to this section. Notwithstanding  
3 8 section 8.33, any balance in the fund on June 30 of a fiscal  
3 9 year shall not revert to the general fund of the state, but  
3 10 shall be available for purposes of this section in subsequent  
3 11 fiscal years.

3 12 7. RULES. The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to  
3 13 chapter 17A to administer this section.

3 14 EXPLANATION  
3 15 This bill establishes a grant program to be administered by  
3 16 the college student aid commission to provide postsecondary  
3 17 educational assistance to dependent children of veterans whom  
3 18 the department of veterans affairs verifies are permanently  
3 19 and totally disabled from a service-connected disability. The  
3 20 awarding of grants is subject to appropriations made by the  
3 21 general assembly.

3 22 Grants awarded may be used by a qualified student to attend  
3 23 a community college, accredited private institution, or  
3 24 regents university. To be eligible for the program, the  
3 25 dependent child of a veteran with a service-connected  
3 26 disability must be a resident of Iowa and a citizen or lawful  
3 27 resident of the United States who is between 16 and 22 years  
3 28 of age. The dependent child must also have exhausted  
3 29 entitlement to state educational assistance under Code chapter  
3 30 35 and federal survivors and dependents educational  
3 31 assistance.

3 32 A qualified student may receive program grants for not more  
3 33 than the equivalent of eight full-time semesters of  
3 34 undergraduate study. Grant awards, however, are not limited  
3 35 to full-time enrollment. Grants shall not exceed the  
4 1 student's financial need, the average resident tuition rate  
4 2 and mandatory fees established for regents universities, or  
4 3 the resident tuition and mandatory fees charged for the  
4 4 program of enrollment by the eligible institution at which the  
4 5 student is enrolled, whichever is less.

4 6 The department of veterans affairs is directed to work with  
4 7 the commission to ensure that information regarding a  
4 8 veteran's disability status or the student's entitlement to  
4 9 state and federal educational assistance, which is requested  
4 10 by a veteran's dependent, an eligible institution, or the  
4 11 commission, and which is required to establish eligibility for  
4 12 a grant pursuant to the bill, is processed on a timely basis.

4 13 If a student receiving a grant discontinues attendance, the  
4 14 entire amount of any refund due to the student, up to the  
4 15 amount of any payments made by the state, must be remitted by  
4 16 the eligible institution to the commission. The commission  
4 17 shall deposit refunds into the dependent children of disabled  
4 18 veterans grant fund the bill creates in the state treasury.  
4 19 Moneys in the fund are appropriated and made available to the  
4 20 commission to allow it to award more grants to qualified  
4 21 students.

4 22 LSB 1277SC 83  
4 23 kh/nh/14